

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 025996

62

ORIGIN EA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ARA-06 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 DPW-01 ACDA-05 SAJ-01 NEA-09 /099 R

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IO/UNP:CSCHALLER

L/UNA:MMATHESON

ARA/RA:GMONSMA

AF/I:JWALKER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY QUITO NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL FLORENCE NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CARACAS NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PANAMA NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON IMMEDIATE

USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BERN

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 025996

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ICRC, PARM, US, VN

SUBJECT: PRG ISSUE AT LOW CONFERENCE

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PAGE 02 STATE 025996

1. IN DRAMATIC VOTE AFTERNOON FEBRUARY 4 CONFERENCE REJECTED PROPOSAL TO CONSIDER SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION OF ALGERIAN RESOLUTION FOR INVITATION TO PRG ON BASIS MAJORITY VOTE. ACTUAL VOTE WAS 41-41 BUT CONFERENCE RULE STATES THAT IN EVENT OF TIE PROPOSITION IS DEFEATED. CONFERENCE CHAIRMAN SWISS FONMIN GRABER THEN RULED THAT RULE 32, REQUIRING TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY VOTE FOR CONSIDERATION OF PRG INVITATION APPLIES, THUS UPHOLDING US POSITION ON THIS VITAL PROCEDURAL ISSUE. HOWEVER, SOVIETS HAVE INDICATED THAT THEY MAY MOUNT CHALLENGE TO CHAIRMAN'S RULING DURING PLENARY SESSION FEBRUARY 5.

2. ALTHOUGH WE HAD REASON TO HOPE THAT HOST GOVERNMENTS OF ACTION ADDRESSEES WOULD SUPPORT US ON PROCEDURAL QUESTION, IN ACTUAL VOTE THEY ABSTAINED. IF SOVIETS CARRY THROUGH WITH THEIR CHALLENGE WE EXPECT VOTE TO BE EXTREMELY CLOSE. THEREFORE, REQUEST THAT, UNLESS YOU PERCEIVE OVERRIDING OBJECTIONS, YOU APPROACH HOST GOVERNMENT AT EARLIEST POSSIBLE HOUR AND STRONGLY URGE IT TO INSTRUCT ITS DELEGATION TO VOTE TO UPHOLD CONFERENCE CHAIRMAN'S RULING ON RULE 32 DURING DEBATE FEBRUARY 5. KISSINGER

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